



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

December 30, 2010

Deb Pile, Supervisor  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Office of Energy Security, MN Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Northern States Power (Xcel Energy) Glencoe-Waconia project to install 115 kV transmission line upgrades and a new substation at various route and location alternatives  
Glencoe to Waconia, Multiple Counties  
SHPO Number: 2011-0704

Dear Ms. Pile:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed project referenced above. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Minnesota Historical Society under the Minnesota Historic Sites Act and the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act.


We have reviewed the content of the certificate of need application for the proposed project. Due to the nature of the proposed project, we request that an archaeological survey be conducted for the proposed route(s). Please prepare a survey plan for our review that considers survey needs for all areas subject to ground-disturbing activities including heavy equipment movement, material staging areas, postholes and new substations. If you can document that the land in question has been previously disturbed, we will reconsider the extent of our survey request. For your convenience, a list of qualified professionals who routinely perform survey work is attached.

Table 26 in your report presents a list of known above-ground historic resources that may be directly or indirectly affected by this project. Once the preferred route is finalized, we will be happy to work with you and the applicant on ways to avoid or minimize potential impacts to these sites from project construction activities. Unless there is Federal involvement in the project, our review of above-ground historic resource impacts is limited to previously-identified historic properties. Therefore, no additional site identification activities will be required by this office for above-ground historic sites.

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36CFR800, Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the protection of historic properties. If this project is considered for federal assistance, or requires a federal permit or license, it should be re-submitted to our office with reference to the assisting federal agency.

Please contact our Compliance Section at (651) 259-3456 if you have any questions on our review.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Ann Heidemann, Manager  
Government Programs and Compliance

cc: Theresa Mogensen, Xcel Energy  
encl: List of Archaeological Consultants

